



Assistant Commissioner
for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20213

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**RESPONSE TO REQUIREMENTS FOR
RESTRICTION AND ELECTION OF SPECIES**

Dear Sir:

In response to the requirement for restriction under 35 U.S.C. §121, set forth in the Official Action dated January 25, 2002 in the above-identified patent application, applicant hereby elects, without traverse, the Group II invention, namely, the subject matter of claims 25-37.

As for the additional election of species requirement set out in the January 25 Official Action, applicant hereby elects the species from the Markush group of claims 26 and 35, namely, bis-2-hydroxyethyliminotrihydroxymethylmethane (Bis-Tris). Claims 25-37 are believed to be readable on the elected species, and presumably will be examined therewith.

Applicant hereby reserves the right to file one or more continuing applications, as provided under 35 U.S.C. §120, on the subject matter of any claims finally held to be withdrawn from consideration in this application.

Early and favorable action on the merits of this application is respectfully requested.

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